

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 04676 212030Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

NIC-01 SAJ-01 /064 W

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R 211954Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6916

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 04676

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VN, FR

SUBJECT: NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S FIRST REPORT FROM
HANOI

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ASIULN BOLLE, TOLD EMBOFF THAT NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR, PHILIPPE RICHER, HAD SENT FIRST REPORT FROM HANOI. RICHER ARRIVED JANUARY 18, PRESENTED CREDENTIALS JANUARY 23 TO VICE PRESIDENT NGUYEN LUONG BANG, AND SAW PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG JANUARY 26. RICHER WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AT SPEED WITH WHICH DRV MOVED TO ALLOW HIM TO ESTABLISH CONTACT AT HIGHEST LEVEL -- APPOINTMENT WITH PRIME MINISTER WAS ARRANGED TWO DAYS AFTER REQUEST. CONVERSATION WITH DONG WAS BASICALLY LIMITED TO FRANCO/NORTH VIETNAMESE BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH BOLLE COMMENTED WERE DEVELOPING "NORMALLY". ON JANUARY 29 RICHER SAW MAI VAN BO, DIRECTOR OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. BO GAVE A PREDICTABLE DIATRIBE AGAINST THE CONSTANT VIOLATIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT BY GVN AND US. BO EMPHASIZED U.S. FAILURE "TO HEAL UP WOUNDS OF WAR". HE ALSO CITED U.S. OVER-FLIGHTS OF DRV TERRITORY. HE INSISTED THAT U.S. SHOULD APPLY STRICTLY THE PARIS AGREEMENTS AND COMMENTED THAT U.S. ABANDONMENT OF THE THIEU TEAM WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE DRV THE CRITERION OF U.S. GOODWILL IN SEEKING A
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PAGE 02 PARIS 04676 212030Z

PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN VIETNAM.

2. BOLLE NOTED THAT BO'S PRESENTATION CONTAINED NOTHING NEW, BUT DRV APPARENTLY WISHED TO GO THROUGH FULL ROUTINE AND TO HAVE IT PASSED ON TO USG. BOLLE EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE THAT CREDENTIALS WERE PRESENTED TO BANG AND NOT TO DRV PRESIDENT.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, AMBASSADORS, REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS04676
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750063-0424
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750223/aaaaaapt.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S FIRST REPORT FROM HANOI
TAGS: PINT, VN, FR, (RICHER, PHILIPPE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006